

Message Text

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FOR LORD EYES ONLY FROM BARTHOLOMEW

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: OVIP (KISSINGER, HENRY A.)

SUBJECT: BUCKLEY COLUMN ON SOLZHENITSYN

REFERENCE: SECTO 27177

1. MOVED IMMEDIATELY TO CONTACT BUCKLEY UPON RECEIPT YOUR MESSAGE, 11:30 A.M. SATURDAY, LOCAL TIME. AFTER NO RESPONSES TO VARIOUS NUMBERS, WHITE HOUSE OPERATOR FINALLY GOT HIM FOR ME. I INTRODUCED MYSELF AS YOUR DEPUTY IN THE STATE DEPARTMENT AND SAID THAT YOU WERE WITH THE SECRETARY IN AFRICA AND HAD CABLED ME, ASKING ME TO CALL HIM ON YOUR BEHALF. I SAID THAT YOU WERE OUTRAGED BY HIS SEPTEMBER 17 COLUMN AND THAT YOU CONSIDERED IT SHODDY JOURNALISM AND SHODDY FRIENDSHIP. I SAID THAT YOU ALSO WISHED HIM TO KNOW THAT YOU WOULD BE WRITING HIM A LETTER DIRECTLY ON THIS MATTER.

2. BUCKLEY SEEMED CAUGHT A BIT OFF GUARD AND REACTED DEFEN-
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SIVELY THOUGH IN A QUITE PLEASANT AND FRIENDLY MANNER. HE

SAID HE WOULD BE DELIGHTED TO HEAR FROM YOU. FOR HIS PART, HE THOUGHT HE'D LET YOU OFF RATHER EASILY AND THAT ALL HE HAD DONE WAS TO PICK UP ON A NEWS ARTICLE AND THAT HE HAD BEEN CAREFUL TO MAKE EXPLICITLY CLEAR YOUR DENIAL OF HAVING CALLED SOLZHENITSYN A FACIST. HE ALSO SAID SOMETHING ABOUT HOPING THAT THE COLUMN HAD BEEN RUN AS HE WROTE IT. I SAID THAT WHILE OF COURSE YOU WOULD BE COMMUNICATING DIRECTLY WITH HIM I PERSONALLY THOUGHT THAT STATEMENTS IN LAST PARAGRAPHS OF ARTICLE RELATING TO YOU CONCERNING "BUREAUCRATIC REFLEX," RECOGNITION OF "MORAL REALITY," AND "PHILISTINE" WERE UNFORTUNATE. THIS WAS SAID QUIETLY, JUST ABOUT AS I HAVE WRITTEN IT HERE.

3. BUCKLEY THEN LAUGHED UNCOMFORTABLY AND SAID SOMETHING TO THE EFFECT THAT NOBODY WAS IMPERVIOUS TO BUREAUCRATIC REFLEXES AND THAT, IN ANY CASE, HE WOULD BE DELIGHTED TO HEAR FROM YOU. THAT ENDED IT.

4. I INFORMED BETTE BEFORE AND AFTER CONVERSATION. THINK IT HELPED HER LET OFF AT LEAST A LITTLE STEAM. BUT I ALSO THINK SHE MAY BE BUSILY PRACTICING SERIES OF OBSCENE HAND GESTURES FOR POSSIBLE USE IN NEXT ENCOUNTER WITH GENTLEMAN CONCERNED. ROBINSON

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